

Investment

PAYS OFF

Library cardholders outnumber Amazon customers by almost 5 to 1.

Amazon.com: 30 million

U.S. libraries: 148 million

In Nebraska, more than 50 percent of the population has library cards

60 percent of public library users are youths

Nebraskans Visit their Local Public Library:

159,732 visits per week

8,306,057 visits per year

Nebraska library customers would fill Memorial Stadium 2 times each week

“We bought our new house because we could walk to the library.”

-Survey participant

Data Source: Annual Nebraska Public Library Statistical Data, 2005-2006, collected by the Nebraska Library Commission. Data is based on reports from 80% of Nebraska public libraries

For more information, see the Nebraska Library Commission home page: www.nlc.state.ne.us

“Living on a fixed income and not having to buy books

- helps our budget. The books fill our minds with helpful and intriguing info and enjoyment.

Life without a library would be dull.”

-Survey Participant

An investment that pays

Nebraska Libraries
are a sound investment

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NEBRASKA PUBLIC LIBRARIES



Nebraska
Library Commission

The study

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Investment QUALITY OF LIFE



“I would not live in a community without one (public library).”

-Survey Participant

- ___% said it improved overall quality of life
- ___% said it increased local property values
- ___% said it attracts patronage to local businesses
- ___% said it attracts new businesses

Investment EDUCATION

- ___% said it helped them with life-long learning
- ___% said it introduced them to new technologies
- ___% said it helped them with education or work
- ___% said it helped them with home schooling

“As a home schooling mom, I depend on the library for a wealth of educational materials and experiences that I would not be able to find or afford elsewhere.”

-Survey participant

Investment ECONOMIC ENGINE

- ___% said it contributed to the success of their business
- ___% said it is where they obtain most of the business/research information to successfully run their business
- ___% said they saved \$___-\$___ by using the information they received
- ___% said they used it for searching for a job

Investment VALUE TO NEBRASKA

Funding: Nebraska invests ___ cents per person in direct state aid to local libraries, while the national average is \$___.

\$_ million in federal and private funds are generated by Nebraska public libraries each year.

\$___ million is approximately the value of information services to users each year.

\$___ million is the total economic impact of Nebraska public libraries, while the actual cost of these services is \$___ million.

